

Jefferson County Services COVID Status

With the COVID-19 Public Health events and the Governor's Safer at Home Order, Jefferson County has looked at a variety of ways to continue services offered in a safe manner to the public and maintain the safety of County staff. The County has taken several steps to provide services or information via phone, teleconference, e-mail, social media or on-line. For additional information please see our website at www.jeffersoncountywi.gov.

Prior to driving to our facilities, please reach out to the respective office to see if there is an alternative method for us to serve you to limit the need for face to face contact. Below is the current status of our facilities and services. Please see specific updates on services here: <https://bit.ly/2QR9hMf>

For additional information on COVID-19 please go to: <https://bit.ly/3dBS1Ep>

Jefferson County Courthouse House Facility (311 S. Center Ave, Jefferson, WI)

The Courthouse is the main facility for Jefferson County Government and provides access to many of the general government functions and the Jefferson County Circuit Court. This facility is a secured facility. The building is open to the public from 8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. Please be advised that most of the offices have minimal staffing at the present time, so please call ahead. A few restrictions are in place at the facility to protect the public and staff.

- 1) Screening questions will be asked at the front entrance to gain entrance into the facility. If a visitor answers "yes" to any of the above questions, they will not be allowed access and will be directed to conduct their business through on-line services or to call the office they intended to visit for further direction.
 - a. Do you have a fever, cough or shortness of breath?
 - b. Have you traveled or had contact with someone who has traveled outside or inside of the US within the last 14 days?
 - c. Have you interacted with someone who had been tested either positive or is suspect for COVID 19 in the last 14 days?
 - d. Have you spent time outside your home (excluding essential travel such as grocery shopping or employment) without practicing social distancing in the last 14 days?
- 2) No more than ten members of the public will be allowed in the facility at any given point in time, the exception is those with appointments or court related issues.
- 3) We are asking for only one member of the public to be in each office waiting area at a time.

Jefferson County Circuit Courts

In an effort to protect the public, attorneys, courts staff and judges from the health risks associated with COVID-19, the Wisconsin Supreme Court and the Jefferson County Circuit Court have issued orders. These orders include guidelines that ensure that the essential functions and operations of the court continue while mitigating risks to employees and the public.

This includes the temporary suspension of **IN-PERSON** proceedings with certain limited exceptions through April 30, 2020.

In addition, all **NON – EMERGENCY** jury trials scheduled to begin before May 22, 2020 are continued and will be rescheduled.

At this time, all jury services scheduled from March 23, 2020 through May 22, 2020 are limited to emergencies only. Jurors under summons for the month of April have been sent a letter with additional information. Summons information for May Jurors will be generated during the first week of April and will include information regarding service limitation. For information related to jury service please call the jury clerk at [920-674-8631](tel:920-674-8631) or review the information provided on the juror phone line and/or website.

IN-PERSON Criminal, Traffic and Small Claim **INITIAL APPEARANCE** Calendars are suspended through April 30, 2020 and will be rescheduled. Efforts are being made to address some procedural issues in traffic and forfeiture cases by mail. Issues that cannot be addressed by mail during this time will be rescheduled with notices being mailed.

Hearings in some cases will proceed as scheduled BY PHONE or BY OTHER ELECTRONIC MEANS. Parties are required to appear as directed unless otherwise notified by the court.

Hearings that cannot be addressed by alternative means will be rescheduled and notices will be mailed to all affected individuals.

Circuit Court case information that is subject to open records are available at wicourts.gov

For more information regarding **CASE SCHEDULING** on any specific case, please call the Branch Office to which the case is assigned and/or the next hearing is scheduled. Contact information for the Branch Offices is as follows:

Branch 1 - [920-674-7178](tel:920-674-7178)

Branch 2 - [920-674-7151](tel:920-674-7151)

Branch 3 - [920-674-7210](tel:920-674-7210)

Branch 4 - [920-674-7217](tel:920-674-7217)

Family Court Commissioner's Office - [920-674-7192](tel:920-674-7192)

Questions relating to Jefferson County case records, case filings and/or case management should be directed to the Jefferson Clerk of Courts Office at 920-674-7150.

Additional information can be found at: <https://bit.ly/33RfWeu>

Human Services

Jefferson County Human Services continues to deliver all services by phone or virtual means. Our buildings are closed to the public.

Please call the following:

- 1) Intake/Crisis (Staffed 24/7) – 920-674-3105 – Ask to speak with an Intake Worker
- 2) All General Questions - 920-674-3105
- 3) Aging and Disability Resource Center - 866-740-2372
- 4) All financial assistance including Foodshare, Insurance and Energy Assistance - 888-794-5780

Additional Information can be found at: <https://bit.ly/2UI8RJd>

Health Department

Please call the main number at 920-674-7275 or e-mail COVID19@jeffersoncountywi.gov. The Health Department will screen the public prior to setting up an appointment. WIC appointments are being done through remote access.

Additional information can be found at: <https://bit.ly/2WP1xQZ>

Jefferson County Parks

Jefferson County Parks’ trails, parks and dog park are open to the public while staying in compliance with the State of Wisconsin’s “Safer at Home” order and all rules and regulations set forth by the State of Wisconsin and the Department of Health Services. At this time bathrooms and playground equipment are closed. We are not able to wipe down tables and other surfaces so we invite our guests to bring hand sanitizer with them, just to be safe.

Additional information can be found at: <https://bit.ly/2UInmwt>

Jefferson County Sheriff

- 1) Dispatch Center – Please call 9-1-1 only for emergencies. For non-emergencies please call 920-674-7310 for a listing of various divisions within the Sheriff’s Office including dispatch to help better direct your call. 2-1-1 is also available for general questions related to COVID19. Please be patient as the dispatchers are asking additional questions related to COVID-19 for the safety of our first responders.
- 2) Jail – The Jail is closed to public visits. Family and Friends do have the option of a video visitations. An app may be downloaded for this option.
- 3) You do not need a pass/letter for driving through the County.

Additional information can be found at: <https://bit.ly/3bzrkxE>

Business Support

Our economic development organizations ThriveED and the Jefferson County Economic Development Consortium (JCEDC) are here to support our businesses and communities as they work through the current situation. They are here to provide support for the short term but to also help in recovery. A special page has been developed with these resources. <https://www.thriveed.org/covid-19-business-resources/> Please check back often as Federal and State programs are developed to assist.

The JCEDC also supports the homebuyer programs and home rehab programs. Additional information can be found at: <https://jeffersoncountyhomebuyer.com/>

Bridges Library System

Although our community libraries are physically closed, our Bridges Library System has a variety of on-line sources to use in the safety of your home. Check out digital books, conduct research or take free on-line courses. Please go to <https://bridgeslibrarysystem.org/>.